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Department of History

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Old Settlers Picnic and Celebration Canton, S. D., Thursday, June 22, 1916

LETTER FROM MONTANA.

Gunnel Rikansrud, Former Lincoln County Resident Tells News of Lake Basin Country.

Lake Basin, Montana, June 10, 1916. Greetings to the Farmers Leader and its Readers:

An sending an account of the celebration on Custer Battlefield which I expect to be present at on June 25th. It is only a distance of some sixty-five miles from the Lake Basin where we Cantonites have our Claims. There has been plenty of rain. Crops are late so there will be later harvest than usual. The mountain scenery here is inspiring, so is the high altitude and the song of the frogs.

With best wishes.

Gunnel Rikansrud,
Lake Basin P. O.
Montana.

CELEBRATION CUSTER BATTLEFIELD.

June 8.—Comprehensive to an unusual degree is the invitation list now being prepared by committees in charge of the ceremonial commemoration on the battlefield June 25 of the fortieth anniversary of the battle of the Little Big Horn. The list includes government officials, the governors of states, pioneers, Indian war survivors, the faculties and student bodies of Montana and Wyoming educational institutions, Grand Army camps in the two states, and many others. Each day marks the completion of new arrangements and indicates more strongly that the observance will be the greatest of its kind ever held in the west.

Visitors from all sections will find special preparations made for their comfort at Billings, Hardin and Sheridan, and equal facilities will be provided at each point for reaching the battlefield on the day of the celebration. It is considered certain that an immense throng will attend. Long special trains running from Billings and Sheridan will be provided. Special rates have been granted.

A feature of the memorial ceremonies at the battlefield will be the reading by Gen. E. S. Godfrey of a communication from Mrs. George A. Custer, widow of General Custer. Mrs. Custer also asked General Godfrey to present a souvenir, the nature of which is not known. The St. Xavier Crow Mission band and an Indian tom-tom band will furnish music. Thousands of Indians will be present, karded in full tribal regalia.

The Indian office is looking to the securing of the presence at the celebration of hundreds of members of the Sioux, Cheyenne, Shoshone and Ree tribes. The Indians will camp at the foot of the Custer battlefield and it will be the first time in history that those tribes have ever gathered in peace on one camping ground.

The program for the celebration practically has been completed. Special trains will leave Billings and Sheridan for the battlefield on the morning of June 25, arriving at about 9 o'clock. The trains will have the Indian village for their destination. At 11 o'clock Gen. E. S. Godfrey, a survivor of Reno's command, will arrive with his party from the mouth of the Rosebud and will approach the village in a manner similar to that employed by General Custer. From the village the veteran will proceed to the monument, while Indian bands will furnish suitable music. Arriving at the monument General Godfrey will deliver a 10-minute memorial address. This will be followed by the speech of an Indian to be chosen by the Crow tribe. Then a salute will be fired and taps will sound.

The trains will leave for Crow Agency at 12 o'clock. Dinner will be eaten, and the afternoon's program will start at 2 o'clock. There will be an address by Col. Henry Hall, a parade consisting of survivors, both Indian and white, of Custer's campaign and a program of Indian sports.

Miss Nora Wika went to Sioux Falls, Monday to attend the teachers' institute.

Indiana Man's Experience

Frank Moseley, Moore's Hill, Ind., writes: "I was troubled with almost constant pains in my sides and back. Great relief was apparent after the first dose of Foley Kidney Pills and in 48 hours all pain left me." Foley Kidney Pills make kidneys active and healthful and stop sleep-disturbing bladder ailments.

SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Miss Pauline Nold was a Power City visitor Monday.

The LEADER is always glad to receive communications that are of interest to its readers. If you know of anything that you think will be of interest, write it up. Use only one side of the paper and write with a pen if possible or be sure it is perfectly legible if written with a pencil. If you send it by mail send your name also so that we may know who it comes from and it will not be printed unless you wish but we must know who the writeup comes from.

Miss Mabel Walters, one of this year's graduates of the Parker high school, spent Saturday here with her sister, Miss Dessa Walters, and left Sunday to attend the institute being held in Sioux Falls this week.

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Anderson drove up to Baltic to spend Sunday with Mrs. Anderson's sister, Mrs. Simon Hanson. Peter tried his hand at fishing and had almost more than he could carry. Master Phillip Anderson who had been visiting there the last two weeks returned home with his parents.

W. C. Graham who gets his mail on Route 6, Beresford was a county seat caller Saturday and had us enroll his name on the LEADER list.

I. W. Seapy found a ladies handbag in the road last week and has left it at the LEADER office where the owner may secure it by describing contents.

Guy O. Thompson and family of Beloit, having business in Sioux City, Saturday took the editor and wife along as passengers in their Reo and they enjoyed the trip very much. The Iowa roads are certainly good as they are as smooth as a floor.

About eighteen of our firemen went down to Yankton Monday noon and seven more in the evening to attend the firemen's tournament. Had it not been for Pierre having a band Canton would have taken a \$50 purse for having the most men in the parade.

A. L. Charrin left Monday afternoon for the head offices of his company in Chicago to find out as he said whether he would be fired or re-hired but we guess there is no danger of the latter as they would have a hard time finding anyone who can pull business their way the way A. L. does it.

John Coverdale, one of the old timers in South Dakota, visited here last week at the home of his daughter, Mrs. G. D. Freeman, and on Friday took her and her husband home with him to Elk Point for a visit.

Chas. Edland, Manager for the Schoeneman Co., at Inwood drove his car over Sunday, loaded W. G. Lechner and family in and took them back with him to spend the day at his home, bringing them safely home in time to have Will feel the cold shivers run up his back when he heard our fire whistle blow for the first time.

EDWARD WILKINSON DEAD.

Old Settler Passes Away at His Son's Home Near Tea.

Edward Wilkinson was born Nov. 28, 1840, in Duaneburg, N. Y. When he was three years of age he went with his parents to Janesville, Wis., where he resided until he was 20 years of age. After this he went to Decatur, Ill., where he lived until 1883 when he came to South Dakota and settled on a farm near Woonsocket. In 1895 he came to Lincoln County near Canton where he lived until three years ago when he made his home with his son Edward near Tea.

He was married to Nancy Jane McCowen, Dec. 27, 1861. Nine children were born to this union. Six are still living, two daughters and four sons. Two boys died in infancy and one at the age of 25 years. Twenty grandchildren and two great grandchildren are living.

Mr. Wilkinson has been a sufferer for fifteen years from an incurable disease. For the last three months he has been a continual sufferer. Every care was given him to relieve his pain so far as possible; but on the morning of June 7th weakened human nature gave away and the spirit of Bro. Wilkinson took its departure to be with God. He was converted in the Methodist church in Sangamon Co., Ill., in early manhood and has been a faithful member of this church ever since. During his last hours he expressed himself as desirous of going to be with loved ones if it was the Master's will. The funeral services were held at the M. E. church of this city Friday afternoon conducted by the pastor assisted by Rev. Schultz pastor of the Lutheran church at Tea. Short services were also held at the home conducted by Rev. Schultz. The casket and church were beautifully decorated with floral offerings of friends showing the affection in which our departed brother was held.

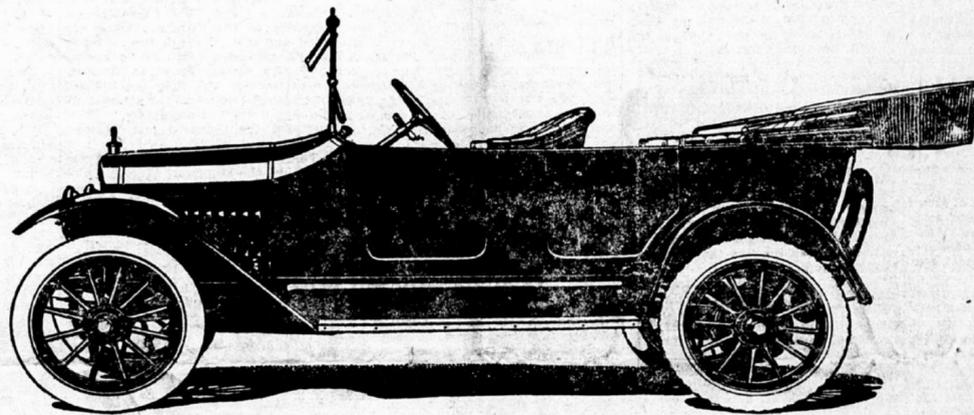
Burial was made at Forest Hill cemetery. The pall bearers were: Ernest Wendt, E. D. Warner, J. J. Johnson, Ed Zenger, Warren Millage and Frank Beck. The relatives present from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hamblin, Mrs. Frank Luckhart and J. T. Wilkinson of Marshalltown, Iowa.

Use Of Corn Leaves.

A Tripp county inquirer asks the following of the agronomy department, State College: If the leaves on a corn stock are ripped and torn to pieces and the leaves clinging to the stalk are cut open by hail, leaving fifty or more black wounds on the main stalk, and in a few instances cutting an open sore on the stalk, when the growth of the corn is in blooming stage, or just when the stalk is shooting its ears, will it tend to make the ears of corn smaller and of poorer quality, considering atmospheric conditions normal? Do the leaves help to draw food value or nutrients from the soil?

Reply: The corn leaves are to the plant what the stomach and lungs are to the animal, that is,—they do the breathing for the plant and assimilate or help to digest the food. Therefore, when a hail storm strips the leaves off the corn, it interferes with the corn's ability to develop. Besides that, the broken places are favorable for the lodgement of germs of smut which also injures the crop. When the hail occurs just after tasseling time, when the ears are beginning to silk, and knocks off or ruins the silk before it has been fertilized with pollen from the tassel, the cob will fall to develop any kernels. It is exceedingly difficult to give a fair estimate of damage done to corn by hail as it might vary all the way from twenty-five to seventy-five percent or more.—Manley Champin, Agronomy Dept., S. D. State College.

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